



Patent

#6  
2877  
06-25-3

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND  
TRADEMARK OFFICE

Phoenix, Arizona

**Applicant:** Robert A. Nickels et al.      **Group:** 2877  
**Serial No.:** 10/026,180      **Examiner:** t.b.d.  
**Filed:** 10-21-01      **Atty Docket No.:** M10 02642  
US  
**For:** SOFTWARE CONTROLLED OPTICAL SENSOR FOR  
CONVEYERS

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**(Submitted before First Office Action)**

Box Patent Application  
Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
POB 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The following sections are being submitted for this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement:

1. Preliminary Statements.

Applicants submit herewith additional patents, publications or other information as the result of an International Search Report, that they believe may be material to the patentability of the claims under consideration in this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

The filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 CFR § 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h)), or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that the references are prior art within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 or 103. Further, any explanation, if provided, is not to be construed as a representation that the references have been thoroughly reviewed. In particular, no representation as to the relevance of any portion of any reference is intended.

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The filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

2. Form PTO-1449, List of Prior Art Cited by Applicant, citing four U.S. patents, three foreign patents, and one publication.

3. Attached to this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is a copy of the International Search Report in the corresponding International Application, along with the cited references, for consideration by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Copies of the references listed in the International Search Report that have not been provided are believed to define the general state of the art and are not considered to be of particular relevance.

4. These references are in addition to those listed in the Information Disclosure Statement and Form PTO 1449 filed with the Patent and Trademark Office on October 17, 2002.

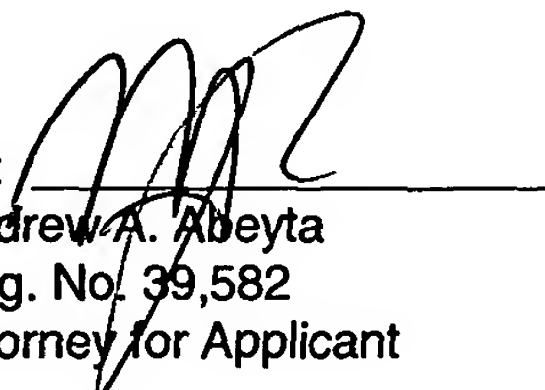
5. Statement in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e):

☒ (1) Each item of information contained in the Supplemental Information Disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of the Supplemental Information Disclosure statement; or

☐ (2) No item of information contained in the Supplemental Information Disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Supplemental Information Disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Supplemental Information Disclosure statement.

6. The person making this statement is the attorney who signs below on the basis of the information supplied by the inventor(s) and the information in the attorney's file.

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

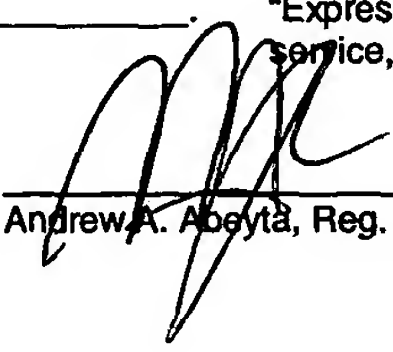
I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited on the date shown below addressed to the Assistant Commissioner of Patents, POB 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450:

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(USE AS MANY SHEETS AS NECESSARY)

Sheet 1 Of 2

**COMPLETE IF KNOWN**

Application Number 10/026,180  
Filing Date December 21, 2001  
First Named Inventor Robert A. Nickels et al.  
Art Unit 2877  
Examiner Name t.b.d.  
Attorney Docket Number M10 02642 US

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number |                                      | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
|                       |                          | Number          | Kind Code <sup>2</sup><br>(if known) |                                |  |  |
|                       |                          | US 3,899,687    |                                      | 08-12-1975                     | Jones  |  |
|                       |                          | US 4,812,982    |                                      | 03-14-1989                     | PeBenhofer   |  |
|                       |                          | US 5,302,812    | A                                    | 04-12-1994                     | Li et al.  |  |
|                       |                          | US 6,191,507    | B1                                   | 02-20-2001                     | Peltier et al.                                     |  |
|                       |                          | US              |                                      |                                |  |  |
|                       |                          | US              |                                      |                                |  |  |
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document      |                     |                                      | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited<br>Document  | Pages, Columns, Lines<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures<br>Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|---|----------------|
|                       |                          | Country<br>Code <sup>3</sup> | Number <sup>4</sup> | Kind Code <sup>5</sup><br>(if known) |                                |   |   |                |
|                       |                          | EP                           | 0 574 017           | A2                                   | 12-15-1993                     | NEC Corporation                                     |   | X              |
|                       |                          | EP                           | 0 818 406           | A1                                   | 01-14-1998                     | Alcatel Alsthom Compagnie Generale<br>d-Electricite |   | X              |
|                       |                          | EP                           | 0 869 089           | A3                                   | 10-07-1998                     | Itoh Electric Company Limited                       |   | X              |
|                       |                          |                              |                     |                                      |                                |   |   |                |
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Examiner  
Signature

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<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.01. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Sheet

2

**Of**

2

**COMPLETE IF KNOWN****Application Number**

10/026,180

**Filing Date**

**December 21, 2001**

**First Named Inventor**

Robert A. Nickels et al.

## Group Art Unit

2877

Examiner Name

t.b.d.

Attorney Docket Number

**M10 02642 US**

## OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

**Examiner  
Signature**

**Date  
Considered**

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<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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